

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MEXICO 04835 142300Z

13

ACTION DLOS-04

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 IO-13 ISO-00 FEA-01 ACDA-07 AGR-05

AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00

DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FMC-01 TRSE-00

H-02 INR-07 INT-05 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-01

OES-06 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

SAL-01 /119 W

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R 142145Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4247

INFO USUN NEW YORK 1276

USMISSION GENEVA

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PLOS SOPN MX US

SUBJECT: MEXICAN PRESS REACTION TO SECRETARY'S SPEECH ON LOS MATTERS

REF: STATE 84997

1. MEXICAN PRESS REACTION TO SECRETARY'S APRIL 8 SPEECH ON LOS MATTERS HAS BEEN CRITICAL AND SPARSE. EXCELSIOR'S EDITORIAL APRIL 10 CALLED THE SPEECH A "VIRTUAL ULTIMATUM" AND ASSERTED THAT IT WAS AN EFFORT TO RETURN TO AN ERA WHERE FORCE RATHER THAN LAW PREVAILED.

2. THE ONLY OTHER NOTEWORTHY REACTION IS A COLUMN BY CARLOS ROJAS JUANCO IN EL NACIONAL APRIL 13 ENTITLED "RESTORATION OF THE RIGHT OF OCCUPATION AND CONQUEST". ROJAS DISPARAGES THE SECRETARY'S PROPOSAL THAT SEABED SITES FOR EXPLORATION IN THE INTERNATIONAL ZONE BE DIVIDED SO
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PAGE 02 MEXICO 04835 142300Z

THAT PRIVATE CONTRACTORS AND AN INTERNATIONAL AUTHORITY

(ON BEHALF OF LDCS) EACH GET SHARES OF EQUAL WEALTH AS
"VERY DIFFICULT TO TAKE SERIOUSLY". HE GOES ON TO
NOTE THAT THE COMPETITION FOR COLONIAL DOMINIONS IN
THE PAST RESULTED IN NUMEROUS BLOODY WARS AND WARNED
THAT THIS "SHOULD NOT BE REPEATED IN A RACE FOR DOMI-
NATION OF THE SEABEDS." (COMMENT: ALTHOUGH ROJAS'
COLUMN APPEARS REGULARLY IN SEMI-OFFICIAL EL NACIONAL,
WE ARE NOT AWARE THAT HE IS PARTICULARLY CLOSE TO GOM
THINKING. SINCE HE IS A MEMBER OF THE PARTIDO POPULAR
SOCIALISTA AND HAS LONG BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH COMMUNISTS
AND EXTREME LEFTISTS, HE SHOULD PROBABLY NOT BE CON-
SIDERED A GOM SPOKESMAN.)
THOMPSON

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